

Practical Applications

How to apply acupuncture to everyday cases

Goals:

- The goal of this lecture is to explain the uses of acupuncture in everyday medical conditions. Some cookbook point selections will be given using the points covered in the previous lecture. (There are many other points that will not have been covered. They are for further study.)

- "Knowing individual points and their individual actions is like knowing individual words. With individual words, you can achieve some small level of communication, but with a sentence, you can achieve a much higher degree of communication. The same is true with knowing the function of a point, the meridian it is on and the organ with which it is associated."

Kerry Ridgeway, DVM

Remember:

Acupuncture will stimulate a body to heal itself. If the body is too weak and cannot do that, then acupuncture will not work well.

Acupuncture is best at providing relief from pain and inflammation, so it is used most frequently for musculoskeletal problems.

Energy flows around an injury and bruises because it follows the path of least resistance, hence, stagnation of the area will ensue, creating further disease, issues in the body.

Musculoskeletal Issues
The most common use for acupuncture

Arthritis	Lameness
Joint pain	Muscle spasm, tightness
Neck and back pain	Any issue with the musculoskeletal system

Examples of points to consider for Hip Dysplasia and Arthritis:

ST 36	BL 23	BL 54
BL 40	BL 60	GB 29
GB 30	GB 39	BAIHUI

- ▶ LU 7
- ▶ LI 11
- ▶ ST 36
- ▶ HT 7
- ▶ BL 23, 60/KI 3
- ▶ GB 39/SP 6
- ▶ BAIHUI
- ▶ GV 14

A Few Good
Old, Geriatric
Dogs Points

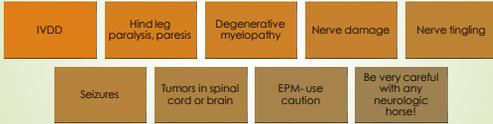
- LU 7
- GV 14
- BAIHUI
- BL 23
- BL 40
- BL 54
- BL 60

Some Points for Sore
Horses

- LU 7
- LI 11
- BL 23
- BL 40
- BL 60/KI 3
- GB 39/ SP 6
- BAIHUI
- GV 14

Neck and Back Pain-
all species

Neurology- the second most common use of acupuncture



Some Points to help with those tough IVDD and paresis cases

- ST 36
- BL 40
- BL 54
- BL 60
- GV 14
- YAO-BAI-HUI
- KI 3
- GB 39

Behavior

- Anxiety, hyperactivity, restlessness
- Separation anxiety- does not fix it, but helps
- Anger- especially due to imbalance within the body
- Depression
- Fear- especially if due to imbalance
- Worry
- Behavior that is pain related

HT 7	PC 6
KI 1	GV 20
YAO-BAI-HUI	GB 39/SP 6

Some Points used for Behavior

Cancer

- Helps to regulate the immune system
- Helps body cope with chemotherapy
- Helps with pain relief
- Works to keep the rest of the body functioning as best as it can
- Allows for a better quality of life, and in some cases, slows the progression of the cancer

Basic Cancer Points

Trying to provide pain relief, a sense of well being and aide with the side effects of chemotherapy	ST 36	LI 11	KI 1
GV 20	GV 14	PC 6	SP 6

Cardiovascular and Respiratory

- CHF
- Asthma
- Allergic airway disease
- Chronic sinusitis
- Heaves- an adjunct
- Equine Pulmonary hemorrhage

HT 7

PC 6

LU 7

GV 14

ST 36

A few Cardiovascular and Lung Points

Endocrinology

- Cushing's Disease
- Diabetes, insulin resistance in horses
- Exocrine Pancreatic Insufficiency
- Sporadic heat cycles
- Low sperm counts

Some Points for Endocrine Issues

- SP 6
- ST 36
- LI 11
- GV 14
- KI 3

Gastrointestinal Uses

- Pancreatitis
- Inappetence
- Nausea, vomiting and diarrhea
- Colitis
- IBD
- Gastric ulcers
- Colic

Examples of Points for Gastrointestinal Issues

- ST 36
- LI 11
- SP 6
- BL 40
- PC 6

Immune System

Helps to modulate the immune system

Helps with diseases that are immune related

ie. Allergies- need regular treatments, though

A few Points for Immune System Issues

LI 11 ST 36

GV 14

Liver Issues

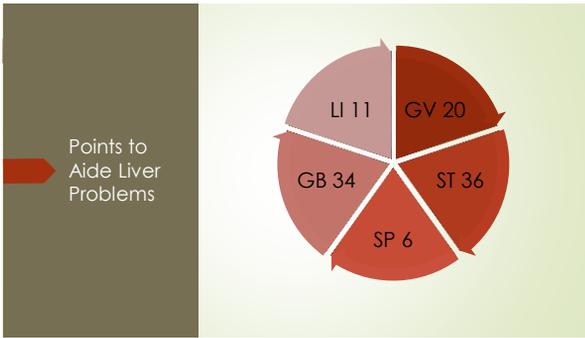
Impaired function

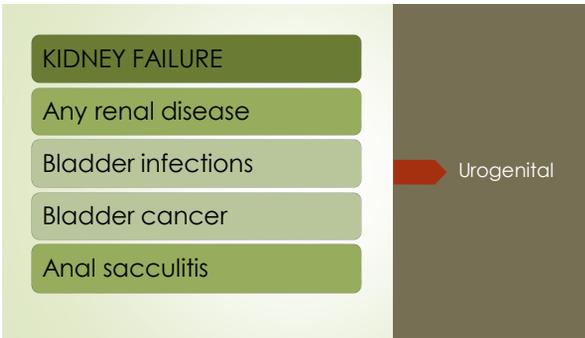
Liver failure

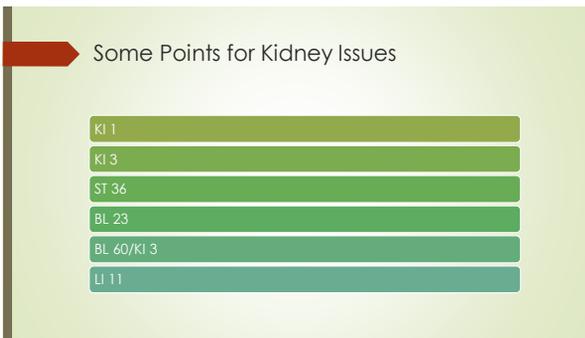
Cholangiohepatitis

Cancer

Seizures







Other Uses

- Anhidrosis
- Treat fever: in horses, use Ting Points
- Improve overall quality of life, allowing the body to function better despite disease process
- Help with stress and change in situation
- Changes how a body ages

Dogs and Cats

- Almost all animals show some response to acupuncture...is it enough to warrant continuation of treatment?
- It takes 3-4 treatments to decide if they are being helped.
- Sometimes there is a perceived 'setback' after the second treatment.
- As a rule of thumb, schedule weekly for the first 3-5 treatments, then every other week, every third, monthly and continue to wean down as the animal improves.
- The schedule does vary based on disease process and owner's schedules.
- Be honest and let the owners be honest, then they realize that the whole goal is to help their pet without feeling pressured.

Horses

- Treatments generally last a month in hard-working horses.
- Often, owners will use acupuncture and chiropractic as a diagnostic tool to see if they need further testing.
- If no response seen, then consider what else could be going on in the body
 - ...does the owner/trainer see horse honestly?
 - ...saddle fit
 - ...rider issues- they can undo all of your work in 1 ride
 - ...dentistry
 - ...footing, husbandry

- Some animals cannot be treated
- Safety is paramount- for the animal, owner and veterinarian
- Some animals need restraint: muzzles, twitches, lip chains
- Certain acupuncture points can be extremely painful. Dogs are sore in their elbows, stifles and back points. Horses are sore in the mid and caudal thoracic back, so be careful of bent needles.
- Talk to the animals as the needles are placed
- Explain to the owner what happened if the animal reacted strongly so that they understand. It helps them stay calm and they will be of more help!

Again.....

References

- International Veterinary Acupuncture Society, Flash Cards for Point Location, 2017.
- Maciocia, G: The Foundations of Chinese Medicine, New York, 1989, Churchill Livingstone.
- May, K: Equine Applications for Acupuncture 2, 79th Western Veterinary Conference, Las Vegas, February 18, 2007.
- Veterinary Acupuncture Course Notes, International Veterinary Acupuncture Society, 1998-1999.
